

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8069

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 05258

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GW GE CGEN FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS: GDR MAIN-
TAINED EXTREMIST POSITION, AND NO ACCORD WAS
REACHED

REF: (A) PARIS 04395; (B) STATE 035617; (C) PARIS 00771

SUMMARY: WE CALLED ON PLAISANT, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR CENTRAL EUROPE, TO OBTAIN FINAL READING ON LAST
WEEK'S FRENCH-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS. AS FORESEEN
REFTEL (A), THE NATIONALITY QUESTION DID NOT EVEN COME
CLOSE TO BEING SOLVED. GDR MAINTAINED EXTREMIST POSI-
TION THAT NATIONALITY MUST BE DEFINED. GOF WAS THERE-
FORE NOT FACED WITH CONTINGENCY OF HAVING TO REACT
TO COMPROMISE PROPOSAL WHICH THEY THEMSELVES SUGGESTED.

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THERE WAS NO ACCORD, THEREFORE. END SUMMARY.

1. PLAISANT TOLD US THAT GOF SIDE STUCK TO ITS GUNS AND DID NOT OFFER ANY FORMULA ON THE NATIONALITY QUESTION. THE GOF AGREED TO LISTEN TO WHATEVER THE GDR HAD TO OFFER, AND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE FISCHER-SAUVAGNARGUES TALKS OF JANUARY 6-7 (REFTEL C), WOULD HAVE BEEN OBLIGED TO TAKE A COMPROMISE PROPOSAL SERIOUSLY. SPECIFICALLY, IF THE GDR HAD PROPOSED THE FORMULA "PERSONS WHO PRESENT A GDR PASSPORT WILL BE REPRESENTED BY GDR AUTHORITIES" AS SATISFYING THEIR NEEDS, THE GOF WOULD HAVE REACTED POSITIVELY. IT IS THE GOF'S FEELING THAT ANYONE WHO ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE PRESENTS A GDR PASSPORT DESIRES TO BE CONSIDERED A GDR NATIONAL, AND THEREFORE DESIRES GDR REPRESENTATION. THE GDR DID NOT PICK UP SAUVAGNARGUES' EARLIER HINT, HOWEVER, AND MAINTAINED AN EXTREMIST POSITION, WITH A SLIGHT NUANCE. INSTEAD OF USING THE WORD "NATIONALITY," THE GDR NEGOTIATORS OFFERED TO CHANGE THEIR PROPOSED CLAUSE TO READ "A PERSON'S CITIZENSHIP WILL BE CONSIDERED TO BE THAT OF THE SENDING STATE IF HIS DOCUMENTATION CONFORMS TO THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THAT STATE." THE GOF REJECTED THIS AS AN AUTOMATIC DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY WHICH THE GOF REFUSES TO INCLUDE. IN SHORT, THE GULF IS STILL QUITE WIDE. THE GOF WILL ACCEPT AS GDR NATIONALS ONLY THOSE PERSONS WHO DECIDE TO CLAIM SUCH NATIONALITY. THE GOF CLAIMS THIS IS THE DE FACTO SITUATION. THE GDR WANTS ALL GDR-DOCUMENTED PERSONS TO BE CONSIDERED GDR NATIONALS REGARDLESS OF THEIR PERSONAL DESIRES.

2. PLAISANT EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE GDR WILL NOT COMPROMISE THEIR POSITION FOR OBVIOUS REASONS OF NATIONAL POLICY, REGARDLESS OF THE PRAGMATIC ASPECTS. THEY WILL JUST BE PATIENT AND KEEP TRYING. ON THE QUESTION OF WHO INITIATED THE SUGGESTION FOR A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE, IT IS CONSISTENT WITH SAUVAGNARGUES' STYLE FOR HIM TO HAVE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 05258

TRIED TO DEVELOP A WRITTEN FORMULATION THAT REFLECTS THE DE FACTO SITUATION. PLAISANT TENDED TO CONFIRM THIS WHEN HE DESCRIBED HIS TALKS WITH VAN WELL OF THE FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY DURING THE FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT LAST WEEK. HE SAID THAT HE HAD TRIED OUT THE COMPROMISE FORMULA ON VAN WELL, WHO REJECTED IT. VAN WELL CITED THE HYPOTHETICAL CASE OF A GDR NATIONAL WHO COMES TO FRANCE TO SEEK ASYLUM AND A CHANGE OF NATIONALITY TO THE FRG. BEFORE HE CAN REACH THE FRG CONSULATE HE IS HIT BY A CAR AND IS KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS. UNDER THE COMPROMISE FORMULA, THE GOF WOULD FIND HIS GDR PASSPORT AND AUTOMATICALLY TURN HIS WELFARE OVER TO THE GDR CONSULATE. PLAISANT SAID HE FOUND THIS VIEW JUST AS EXTREMIST AS THE GDR POSITION, BUT IT MADE HIM HAPPY
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WHEN NOTHING HAPPENED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO.

3. SINCE THERE WILL BE ANOTHER ROUND OF GOF-GDR NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR TO NEXT SUMMER, WE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE DISCUSSION TO INFORM PLAISANT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE COMPROMISE FORMULA AS STATED REF B. HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ARGUMENT THAT A PERSON WITHOUT AN APPROPRIATE PASSPORT COULD FIND HIMSELF PROHIBITED ACCESS TO THE CONSULATE OF HIS CHOICE, AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH THE LEGAL SECTION OF THE QUAI D'ORSAY.

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